

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOSE ENRIQUEZ and QUINN COLMENERO,  
individually and on behalf of themselves  
and those similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

INTERSTATE GROUP, LLC; SHAWN LUTEYN;  
and DOES 1 to 50,

Defendants.

Case No.: 11-CV-05155 YGR

ORDER DENYING MOTION OF DEFENDANT  
SHAWN LUTEYN TO DISMISS COMPLAINT FOR  
LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION

Plaintiffs Jose Enriquez (“Enriquez”) and Quinn Colmenero (“Colmenero”) bring this putative class action, on behalf of themselves and similarly situated current and former employees of Defendant Interstate Group, LLC (“Interstate”) for violation of state and federal labor laws. Plaintiffs also bring two claims in their individual capacities against Interstate and its Chief Operating Officer, Shawn Luteyn (“Luteyn”), for violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”), 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 *et seq.*: (1) failure to pay overtime (Count One); and (2) wrongful termination (Count Eleven). (Dkt. No. 23, “First Amended Complaint” (“FAC”) ¶¶ 34-41, 101-06.)

Luteyn, who works and resides in Idaho, has filed a Motion to Dismiss on the grounds that the Court lacks personal jurisdiction. The Court held oral argument on July 10, 2012 and ordered supplemental briefing.

Having carefully considered the papers submitted, the pleadings, and the oral argument of counsel, for the reasons set forth below, the Court hereby **DENIES** Luteyn’s to Dismiss.

1       **I. BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>**

2           Interstate manufactures and sells auto, cargo, construction, recreational and sport, utility, and  
 3 work trailers. (FAC ¶ 9.) Interstate owns and operates approximately 37 retail dealerships  
 4 throughout the United States, including eight stores in California, that specialize in the sale of its  
 5 trailers. (*Id.*) Luteyn is the Chief Operating Officer of Interstate, and he resides and maintains his  
 6 office in Idaho. (*Id.* ¶ 13.)

7           Both Plaintiffs worked at Interstate's dealership in Santa Rosa, California, TrailersPlus.  
 8 Colmenero worked as a Sales Associate<sup>2</sup> from September 2009 to May 2010 and from August 2011  
 9 to September 2011. (*Id.* ¶ 8.) Between May 2010 and August 2011, Colmenero worked as a store  
 10 manager. (*Id.*) Enriquez has worked as a Sales Associate at TrailersPlus in Santa Rosa, California,  
 11 since December 2009. (*Id.* ¶ 7.)

12       **A. OVERTIME CLAIM**

13           Plaintiffs' first claim is for failure to pay overtime. (*Id.* ¶ 36.) The FLSA requires employers  
 14 pay non-exempt employees overtime rates for each hour worked in excess over forty hours in a  
 15 workweek. 29 U.S.C. § 207. Plaintiffs allege that Interstate misclassifies Sales Managers as exempt  
 16 employees so that it does not have to pay Sales Managers overtime for any work in excess of forty  
 17 hours in a week. (FAC ¶ 16.) Plaintiffs also allege that Interstate has a policy of prohibiting its Sales  
 18 Associates from logging more than 39.5 hours, regardless of actual hours worked. (*Id.* ¶ 17.) If a  
 19 Sales Associate logs more than 39.5 hours on a timecard, the Sales Associate is required to change  
 20 the timecard or the timecard will be changed for the Sales Associate. (*Id.*) Plaintiffs claim that  
 21 Luteyn "was the primary decision maker with respect to the violations of the FLSA." (*Id.* ¶ 13.)

22       **B. COLMENERO'S WRONGFUL TERMINATION CLAIM**

23           Colmenero also brings a claim for wrongful termination against both Interstate and Luteyn.  
 24 On July 22, 2011, Colmenero filed a formal written complaint with the California Department of  
 25

---

26       <sup>1</sup> Because the pending Motion addresses only certain claims and issues, this section is not intended to provide  
 27 an exhaustive summary of the factual or procedural background in this action.  
 28

<sup>2</sup> In the parties' briefs, Plaintiffs refer to this position as "Sales Associate," while Defendant refers to the same  
 29 position as "Sales Consultant." For consistency purposes only, the Court will use the term "Sales Associate"  
 throughout.

1 Labor Standards Enforcement (“DLSE”), claiming that Interstate failed to pay overtime when  
 2 employees worked in excess of 8 hours in a day. (*Id.* ¶ 96.) Colmenero alleges that prior to the  
 3 hearing on the DLSE complaint, he was summoned into his manager’s office to participate in a  
 4 conference call with Luteyn to discuss the basis for the DLSE claim. (Dkt. No. 17, Ex. A,  
 5 Declaration of Quinn Colmenero (“Colmenero Dec.”), ¶ 5.) Colmenero alleges that Luteyn  
 6 primarily represented Interstate at the August 31, 2011 DLSE hearing, which resulted in a settlement  
 7 and the issuance of back pay to Interstate employees. (*Id.* ¶ 7; *see also*, Supplemental Declaration of  
 8 Shawn Luteyn (“Luteyn Supp. Dec.”), Dkt. No. 19-1, ¶ 11 (“Colmenero overstates my role in the  
 9 California DLSE settlement conference”); Deposition of Shawn Luteyn (“Luteyn Dep.”), Dkt. No.  
 10 46-1, at 189:1-3.)

11 Colmenero was terminated on September 10, 2011, allegedly in retaliation for filing the  
 12 DLSE complaint. (FAC ¶ 98.) Luteyn fired Colmenero via telephone after another Interstate  
 13 employee reported feeling harassed when Colmenero inquired about the phone number for a former  
 14 store manager. (Colmenero Dec. ¶ 8; *see also*, Luteyn Dep. at 183:14-16 (“I was brought into it,  
 15 yes”).) The FAC alleges that Luteyn was the decision maker in Colmenero’s firing. (FAC ¶ 98.)

## 16 **II. DISCUSSION**

### 17 **A. LEGAL STANDARD UNDER RULE 12(b)(2)**

18 A motion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(2) challenges the Court’s exercise of  
 19 personal jurisdiction over a defendant. Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(2). Where no federal statute governs  
 20 personal jurisdiction, the Court applies the law of the state in which it sits, here, California.  
 21 *Schwarzenegger v. Fred Martin Motor Co.*, 374 F.3d 797, 800 (9th Cir. 2004). California law allows  
 22 for the exercise of “jurisdiction on any basis not inconsistent with the Constitution of the state or of  
 23 the United States.” Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 410.10.

24 Due process requires that the non-resident defendant have either a “substantial, continuous,  
 25 and systematic” presence in the forum state or sufficient “minimum contacts with [the forum state]  
 26 such that the maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial  
 27 justice.” *Int’l Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316 (1945). Where the non-resident  
 28 defendant’s forum-related activities are not “substantial, continuous, and systematic,” the Court must

1 evaluate whether the specific activity giving rise to the Plaintiffs' causes of action is sufficiently  
2 related to the forum state. *See Perkins v. Benguet Consol. Mining Co.*, 342 U.S. 437, 446 (1952);  
3 *Hanson v. Denckla*, 357 U.S. 235, 250-53 (1958).

4 The Ninth Circuit applies a three-part test to determine whether a non-resident defendant's  
5 activities are sufficiently related to the forum state to establish personal jurisdiction:

- 6 (1) The non-resident defendant must purposefully direct his activities or  
7 consummate some transaction with the forum or resident thereof; or perform  
some act by which he purposefully avails himself of the privilege of conducting  
activities in the forum, thereby invoking the benefits and protections of its laws;
- 8 (2) the claim must be one which arises out of or relates to the defendant's forum-  
related activities; and
- 9 (3) the exercise of jurisdiction must comport with fair play and substantial justice,  
i.e. it must be reasonable.

11 *Schwarzenegger, supra*, 374 F.3d at 802 (citing *Lake v. Lake*, 817 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1987)).

12 The plaintiffs bear the burden of demonstrating the first two parts. *Boschetto v. Hansing*, 539 F.2d  
13 1011, 1016 (9th Cir. 2008). If the plaintiffs fail to satisfy either of these parts, then personal  
14 jurisdiction is not established in the forum state. *Pebble Beach Co. v. Caddy*, 453 F.3d 1151, 1555  
15 (9th Cir. 2006). If the plaintiffs carry this burden, then "the defendant must come forward with a  
16 'compelling case' that the exercise of jurisdiction would not be reasonable." *Id.* (citing  
17 *Schwarzenegger, supra*, 374 F.3d at 802).

18 Where, as here, the motion to dismiss is based on written materials—pleadings, declarations,  
19 and Luteyn's deposition—rather than an evidentiary hearing, the plaintiffs need only make a *prima  
facie* showing of jurisdiction. *Schwarzenegger, supra*, 374 F.3d at 800. The plaintiffs must make  
20 this showing with respect to each claim. *Fiore v. Walden*, 657 F.3d 838, 858 (9th Cir. 2011). A  
21 plaintiff makes a "*prima facie*" showing by producing admissible evidence which, if believed, would  
22 be sufficient to establish the existence of personal jurisdiction. *Ballard v. Savage*, 65 F.3d 1495,  
23 1498 (9th Cir. 1995). In deciding whether such a showing has been made, a district court must  
24 accept as true the uncontested allegations in the complaint; where allegations are contested, they  
25 "are construed in the light most favorable to the plaintiff[s] and all doubts are resolved in [their]  
26 favor." *AT&T v. Compagnie Bruxelles Lambert*, 94 F.3d 586, 588 (9th Cir. 1996).

1           **A.       MINIMUM CONTACTS ANALYSIS**

2           Analyzing Luteyn's acts under the minimum contacts test demonstrates that Luteyn has  
 3 sufficient minimum contacts for the Court to exercise specific jurisdiction as to each claim.

4           1.       *Part One: Purposeful Direction*

5           The first part of the minimum contacts test is subdivided into purposeful direction,  
 6 which generally applies to tort claims, and purposeful availment, which generally applies to contract  
 7 claims. *Yahoo! Inc. v. La Ligue Contre Le Racisme Et L'Antisemitisme*, 433 F.3d 1199, 1206 (9th  
 8 Cir. 2006). Although claims of unlawful employment practices presuppose an employment contract,  
 9 FLSA claims generally are analyzed as torts under purposeful direction. See *Holliday v. Lifestyle Lift,*  
 10 *Inc.*, No. C-09-4995 RS, 2010 WL 3910143 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 5, 2010).

11          The first part of the minimum contacts test is satisfied where a defendant purposefully directs  
 12 his activities at the forum state. *Schwarzenegger*, *supra*, 374 F.3d at 802-03. Courts focus on where  
 13 the defendant's actions were felt, not whether the acts occurred within this forum. *Yahoo!*, *supra*,  
 14 433 F.3d at 1205. Thus, courts analyze this issue using the "effects test." *Schwarzenegger*, *supra*,  
 15 374 F.3d at 802 (citing *Calder v. Jones*, 465 U.S. 783, 789-90 (1984)). Under the "effects test," the  
 16 defendant allegedly must have (a) committed an intentional act; (b) expressly aimed at the forum  
 17 state; (c) which caused harm that the defendant knew was likely to be suffered in the forum state. *Id.*

18           a)       *Intentional Act*<sup>3</sup>

19          “[I]ntent” in the context of the ‘intentional act’ test [refers] to an intent to

---

20          <sup>3</sup> Luteyn contends that the fiduciary shield doctrine precludes his acts from counting towards the minimum  
 21 contacts test because they were conducted in his role as a corporate officer. (Mot. at 9-10.) In the Motion, he  
 22 raises the doctrine only in respect to general jurisdiction. However, he also references the doctrine in his  
 23 specific jurisdiction analysis.

24          Luteyn's acts are not protected by the fiduciary shield doctrine because he is alleged to have been a  
 25 “primary participant” in the alleged wrongdoing. *Allstar Mktg. Group, LLC v. Your Store Online, LLC*, 666 F.  
 26 Supp. 2d 1109, 1120 (C.D. Cal. 2009) (citing *Transgo, Inc. v. Ajac Transmission Parts Corp.*, 768 F.2d 1001,  
 27 1021 (9th Cir. 1985)). Under the fiduciary shield doctrine, “the acts of corporate officers & directors in their  
 28 official capacities are the acts of the corporation exclusively and are thus not material for purposes of  
 establishing minimum contacts as to the individual.” *Colt Studio v. Badpuppy Enter.*, 75 F. Supp. 2d 1103,  
 1111 (C.D. Cal. 1999) (citing *Shearer v. Superior Court*, 70 Cal. App. 3d 424, 430 (1977)). One exception to  
 the fiduciary shield doctrine is if the defendant is a primary participant in alleged wrongdoing. *Allstar Mktg.*  
*Group, supra*, 666 F. Supp. 2d at 1120. Plaintiffs have alleged that Luteyn was a “primary participant” in the  
 alleged wrongdoing: Luteyn was the decision maker with respect to the overtime policies, and Luteyn  
 personally fired Colmenero. (FAC ¶¶ 13, 98.)

1 perform an actual, physical act in the real world, rather than an intent to accomplish a result or  
2 consequence of that act.” *Id.* at 806.

3 Here, the policy decision to deny overtime compensation satisfies the intentional act prong.  
4 Plaintiffs claim that Luteyn “was the primary decision maker with respect to the violations of the  
5 FLSA.” (FAC ¶ 13.) In other words, Luteyn is alleged to have promulgated both the policy decision  
6 to misclassify Store Managers as exempt, and the policy decision to deny overtime compensation to  
7 Sales Associates. (*Id.*) Luteyn does not argue to the contrary, but instead claims that he manages  
8 operations at only a high level and he is not involved with individual store employee issues. Since  
9 Plaintiffs allege that the FLSA violations occur in all eight California stores, if not all 37 Interstate  
10 stores, the alleged overtime violations are not based on individual store level employee decisions but  
11 corporate policies. Accordingly, the uncontested allegation that Luteyn made the policy decision  
12 to deny overtime compensation in violation of the FLSA operates as the “intentional act” under the  
13 “effects test.” *See Holliday*, 2010 WL 3910143 (policy decision to deny overtime compensation to  
14 all non-exempt employees in violation of FLSA “operates as the ‘intentional act’”).

15 Colmenero’s termination likewise satisfies the intentional act prong. Luteyn contends that his  
16 role in Colmenero’s termination was limited to ratifying the decision of a store manager. However,  
17 Luteyn does not deny, refute, or attempt to contradict the allegation that he was the individual who  
18 fired Colmenero. Taking as true, the uncontested allegation that Luteyn uttered words to the  
19 effect of “you’re fired,” Luteyn’s role in Colmenero’s termination went beyond mere ratification, he  
20 personally participated in the allegedly wrongful termination. Moreover, Plaintiffs have proffered  
21 the declaration<sup>4</sup> of an individual present when Luteyn fired Colmenero that states it was Luteyn who  
22 made the decision to fire Colmenero. (Dkt. No. 47.) “Conflicts between parties over statements  
23 contained in affidavits must be resolved in plaintiff’s favor.” *Schwarzenegger, supra*, 374 F.3d at  
24 800.

25 Based on the foregoing analysis, the Court concludes that Luteyn’s allegedly unlawful  
26 conduct satisfies the intentional act prong of the effects test.

27 <sup>4</sup> Larry Tait, the Regional Manager who worked out of the Santa Rosa, California store at the time, provided a  
28 sworn declaration that Luteyn made the decision to terminate Colmenero, and that Luteyn personally fired  
Colmenero. (Dkt. No. 47.)

1                   b)     Express Aiming

2                   The express aiming requirement is satisfied if a defendant knows the plaintiff  
 3 is a resident of the forum state at the time his wrongful conduct occurs. *Dole Food, Inc. v. Watts*, 303  
 4 F.3d 1104, 1112 (9th Cir. 2002).

5                   The allegedly unlawful overtime policy satisfies the “express aiming” requirement of the  
 6 effects test. By operating eight retail stores in California and applying allegedly unlawful overtime  
 7 policies to stores in California, Luteyn targeted California. The retaliatory termination also satisfies  
 8 the “express aiming” requirement of the effects test. At the time Luteyn fired Colmenero he was  
 9 aware that Colmenero worked in the Santa Clara, California store and that Colmenero lived in  
 10 California.<sup>5</sup> (Colmenero Dec. ¶¶ 3-7.)

11                  Based on the foregoing analysis, the Court concludes that Luteyn’s allegedly unlawful  
 12 conduct was expressly aimed at Plaintiffs in California.

13                   c)     Foreseeable Harm

14                  The third element of the effects test—causing harm that the defendant knows is  
 15 likely to be suffered in the forum state—is similarly satisfied.

16                  By applying the allegedly unlawful overtime policies here in California, Luteyn would  
 17 reasonably have known that California employees would be harmed by such policies. With respect  
 18 to the retaliatory termination claim, Luteyn knew that Colmenero lived and worked in California and  
 19 therefore, it was foreseeable that the harm from firing Colmenero would occur in California.

20                  Based on the foregoing analysis, the Court concludes that Plaintiffs have presented sufficient  
 21 allegations and facts to demonstrate that Luteyn purposefully directed his actions at California so as  
 22 to satisfy the first part of the minimum contacts test.

23                  2.     Part Two: Forum-related activities

24                  The requirement that the claims “arise out of” or “relate to” the defendant’s forum-  
 25 related activities is met if “but for” the contacts between the defendant and the forum state, the cause  
 26 of action would not have arisen. *See Omeluk v. Langsten Slip & Bathyggeri A/S*, 52 F.3d 267, 271

---

27                  <sup>5</sup> For purposes of this motion, it has not been disputed that Luteyn had a phone conversation with Colmenero  
 28 concerning his California overtime wage claim, Luteyn represented Interstate at the hearing before the  
 California administrative agency, and Luteyn terminated Colmenero’s employment.

1 (9th Cir. 1995); *see also, Myers v. Bennett Law Offices*, 238 F.3d 1068, 1075 (9th Cir. 2000).  
 2 Luteyn argues that Plaintiffs cannot satisfy this part of the test because they fail to allege a single act  
 3 that ties Luteyn to California.<sup>6</sup> Luteyn either misreads the FAC or simply ignores the facts alleged.

4 In light of the allegations that Luteyn personally promulgated unlawful overtime  
 5 compensation policies, and that Luteyn decided to terminate Colmenero and personally executed  
 6 that decision, the arising out of prong is easily satisfied. Here, “but for” Luteyn’s alleged  
 7 promulgation of unlawful overtime policies that applied to Interstate’s California stores, Colmenero  
 8 and Enriquez would not have an overtime claim. Likewise, “but for” Luteyn’s act of terminating  
 9 Colmenero’s employment at the Santa Rosa, California store, and allegedly in retaliation for filing a  
 10 complaint with the California DLSE, Colmenero would not have a claim for retaliatory termination.

11 Therefore, the Court concludes that Plaintiffs’ overtime claim and Colmenero’s retaliation  
 12 claim arise out of or relate to Luteyn’s forum-related activities.

13       3.     *Part Three: Reasonableness*

14       “Once it has been decided that a defendant purposefully established minimum contacts  
 15 with a forum, he must present a compelling case that the presence of some other considerations  
 16 would render jurisdiction unreasonable in order to defeat personal jurisdiction.” *Harris Rutsky & Co.*  
 17 *Ins. Servs v. Bell & Clements Ltd.*, 328 F.3d 1122, 1132 (9th Cir. 2003) (citing *Burger King v.*  
 18 *Rudzewicz*, 471 U.S. 462, 477 (1985) (internal quotations omitted)). To determine whether a  
 19 particular exercise of personal jurisdiction is reasonable, the Court must analyze seven factors: (a)  
 20 the extent of the defendant’s purposeful interjection into the forum; (b) the burden on the defendant  
 21 in litigating in the forum; (c) the extent of conflict with the sovereignty of the defendant’s state; (d)  
 22 the forum state’s interest in adjudicating the dispute; (e) the most efficient judicial resolution of the  
 23 controversy; (f) the importance of the forum to the plaintiff’s interest in convenient and effective  
 24

---

25       <sup>6</sup> Luteyn argues that he cannot be held personally liable under the FLSA because he did not act as Plaintiff’s  
 26 “employer” within the meaning of the FLSA. Luteyn argues that because he does not hold a “significant  
 27 ownership interest” in Interstate or exercise “operational control . . . over day to day functions,” he cannot be  
 28 held liable under a derivative liability theory. This again ignores that Plaintiffs are not attempting to impute  
 liability or jurisdiction over Luteyn based on acts of the corporation by virtue of his position as a corporate  
 officer. Rather, Plaintiffs argue that Luteyn’s own acts are sufficient to establish minimum contacts.

1 relief; and (g) the existence of an alternative forum. *Core-Vent Corp. v. Nobel Indus. AB*, 11 F.3d  
2 1482, 1487-88 (9th Cir. 1993). An analysis of these factors demonstrates that an exercise of  
3 jurisdiction is reasonable.

4           a)     Purposeful interjection into the forum.

5           The first factor, regarding the extent of the defendant's purposeful interjection  
6 into the forum state's affairs, "parallels the question of minimum contacts" in determining the  
7 reasonableness of an exercise of specific jurisdiction. *Amoco Egypt Oil Co. v. Leonis Nav. Co., Inc.*,  
8 1 F.3d 848, 852 (9th Cir. 1993); *see also Roth v. Garcia Marquez*, 942 F.2d 617, 623 (9th Cir. 1991)  
9 ("In light of the first prong of purposeful availment, analysis of this first factor in the third prong  
10 would be redundant"). Luteyn argues that there is no evidence that he purposefully interjected  
11 himself into California's affairs. Since Plaintiffs satisfied the first prong of purposeful availment by  
12 showing that Luteyn purposefully directed his activities at California, this factor weighs in favor of  
13 finding that the exercise of jurisdiction is reasonable.

14           b)     Burden on defendant of litigating in a foreign forum.

15           The second factor focuses on the burden that defending in a particular forum.  
16 *Core-Vent, supra*, 11 F.3d at 1487. For the Court's exercise of jurisdiction to be unreasonable, the  
17 burden of defending in California must be "so gravely difficult and inconvenient" that it violates due  
18 process. *See Burger King, supra*, 471 U.S. at 485 (litigating in forum must be "so gravely difficult  
19 and inconvenient that a party unfairly is at a severe disadvantage in comparison to his opponent.")  
20 (internal quotations omitted). This factor also must be considered in relation to the corresponding  
21 burden on the plaintiff. *Sinatra v. National Enquirer, Inc.*, 854 F.2d 1191, 1199 (9th Cir. 1988).  
22 Luteyn argues that "[t]he burden on Luteyn, who lives and works in Idaho, is substantial." (Mot. 13.)  
23 Luteyn is the COO of a company with eight stores in California, and he has visited California for the  
24 opening of at least some of those stores. (FAC ¶ 9; Luteyn Supp. Dec. ¶ 14; Luteyn Dep. at 30:6-  
25 32:3, 234:13-235:12.) His declaration indicates that he has performed his regular work while in  
26 California on previous occasions. (Luteyn Supp. Dec. ¶ 14.) Additionally, Luteyn's deposition  
27 testimony indicates that he travels to California for leisure approximately once per year. (Luteyn  
28 Dep. at 235:4-13) By contrast, Colmenero is now unemployed (*see* Colmenero Dec. ¶ 14), nothing

1 indicates that Enriquez or Colmenero have ever traveled to Idaho, and many of their likely witnesses  
2 reside in California. This factor thus supports a finding of reasonableness.

3                   c)     *Conflict with Idaho's sovereignty.*

4                   With respect to the third factor, Lutelyn does not argue that exercise of  
5 jurisdiction over him would conflict with Idaho's sovereignty, but instead argues that Idaho has an  
6 interest in resolving a lawsuit against one of its residents. *See Core-Vent, supra*, 11 F.3d at 1487.  
7 Although this case involves a resident of Idaho, there is no indication that the exercise of jurisdiction  
8 over Lutelyn would interfere with Idaho's sovereignty. This factor thus supports a finding of  
9 reasonableness.

10                  d)     *Forum state's interest.*

11                  The fourth factor concerns the forum state's interest in adjudicating the  
12 dispute. *Id.* California has a strong interest in adjudicating this matter because the injuries alleged  
13 occurred here in California and Plaintiffs are residents of California. Thus, the fourth factor indicates  
14 the exercise of jurisdiction over Lutelyn would be reasonable.

15                  e)     *Most efficient forum for judicial resolution.*

16                  The fifth factor considers which forum will provide the most efficient judicial  
17 resolution. *Id.* Resolving the claims here will be more efficient. First, the claims asserted against  
18 Lutelyn are also asserted against Interstate, and thus, the claims will be resolved in this forum even if  
19 Lutelyn is dismissed from this lawsuit. Accordingly, it is more efficient to resolve these claims in  
20 one, rather than two forums. Second, the overtime claim is related to the California state law claims,  
21 and some degree of overlap in witnesses and evidence is likely. Lutelyn has not indicated there are  
22 any witnesses or evidence in Idaho. For these reasons, this factor supports a finding of  
23 reasonableness.

24                  f)     *Plaintiff's interest in convenient and effective relief.*

25                  The sixth factor, the importance of this forum to Plaintiffs for convenient and  
26 effective relief also supports exercising jurisdiction over Lutelyn. *Id.* at 1487-88. Colmenero is  
27 presently unemployed and has expressed fears of financial distress (Colmenero Dec. ¶ 14). A local  
28 forum without travel requirements is more cost-effective for Plaintiff. There is no indication that

1 either of the Plaintiffs has ever traveled to Idaho, and many of their likely witnesses reside in  
2 California. This factor thus supports a finding of reasonableness.

3 g) Existence of an alternative forum.

4 The single factor weighing in favor of dismissal is the last factor, the presence  
5 of an alternative forum in Idaho. Although an alternative forum exists in Idaho, Luteyn has not  
6 “come forward with a ‘compelling case’ that the exercise of jurisdiction would not be reasonable.”  
7 *Pebble Beach, supra*, 453 F.3d at 1555 (citing *Schwarzenegger, supra*, 374 F.3d at 802).

8 Overall, the reasonableness factors indicate that an exercise of personal jurisdiction over  
9 Luteyn would be reasonable in this case.

10 **III. CONCLUSION**

11 Based on the foregoing analysis, the Court concludes that the specific activity giving rise to  
12 the Plaintiffs’ causes of action is sufficiently related to California to establish personal jurisdiction  
13 over Shawn Luteyn. Accepting as true the uncontested allegations in the FAC and resolving all  
14 conflicts in the evidence in Plaintiffs’ favor, Luteyn “could reasonably expect to be haled into court”  
15 in California. *See Int’l Shoe, supra*, 326 U.S. at 316. Thus, “the maintenance of the suit does not  
16 offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.” *Id.*

17 The Motion of Defendant Shawn Luteyn to Dismiss the Complaint for Lack of Personal  
18 Jurisdiction is **DENIED**.

19 This Order terminates Dkt. No. 12.

20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

21 Dated: August 31, 2012

  
YVONNE GONZALEZ ROGERS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28